


Dear Respondent:

*This issue of the **NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE SPECIAL SURVEY RESULTS** contains the Cattle, Sheep and Goat Report. This is being sent exclusively to those of you who responded to our request for data. The information you provided made these published estimates possible. Thank you for your cooperation and the time spent completing the surveys.*

Sincerely,



Dwaine Nelson  
State Statistician

**CATTLE INVENTORY**

**NEW MEXICO:** Inventory of all **cattle and calves** in New Mexico on January 1, 2004 totaled 1.51 million head compared to the revised 1.55 million head on January 1, 2003. **Beef cow** inventory declined by 11,000 head to 455,000 with New Mexico ranchers maintaining 85,000 heifers for **beef cow replacement** compared to 90,000 the previous year. **Milk cow** numbers continued their growth pattern with inventory on January 1, 2004 totaling 325,000 head, an increase of 3.5 percent from the previous year's inventory of 314,000 head. Dairy producers kept 75,000 head of **dairy heifers for milk cow replacement** , a 7 percent increase from the 70,000 head kept on January 1, 2003. **Steers** weighing 500 pounds or more totaled 190,000 compared to 210,000 one year ago. **Bulls** on hand remained at 45,000 head. The calf crop declined in number by 10,000 head totaling 590,000 head on January 1, 2004. Total **cattle and calves on feed** for the slaughter market were 115,000, down from January 1, 2003 by 4,000 head.

**UNITED STATES:** All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003.

Beef cows, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003.  
Milk cows, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2004 and the change from January 1, 2003, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.3 million, down 1 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.52 million, down 2 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.02 million, down 2 percent.
- Other heifers, 9.80 million, down 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.3 million, down 2 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down 2 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 15.2 million, down 2 percent.
- Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.8 million, up 4 percent.

The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots, 27.5 million, down 4 percent.

The 2003 calf crop was estimated at 37.9 million head, down 1 percent from 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.7 million, down 1 percent from 2002.

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class and Calf Crop January 1, 2003-2004, New Mexico and U.S.				
	New Mexico		United States	
	2003 <sup>1/</sup>	2004	2003	2004
	-----1,000 Head-----			
Cattle and calves	1,550	1,510	96,100.0	94,882.0
Cows and Heifers that have calved	780	780	42,125.0	41,850.8
Beef Cows	466	455	32,983.3	32,860.3
Milk Cows	314	325	9,141.7	8,990.5
Heifers 500 lbs. And over				
For beef cow replacement	90	85	5,623.5	5,517.2
For milk cow replacement	70	75	4,113.9	4,020.0
Other	110	105	9,890.5	9,804.1
Steers 500 lbs. and over	210	190	16,554.1	16,280.1
Bulls 500 lbs. and over	45	45	2,247.9	2,205.6
Calves under 500 lbs.	245	230	15,545.1	15,204.2
Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter	119	115	13,219.8	13,810.9
Calf crop (previous year)	600	590	38,223.7	37,902.8

<sup>1/</sup> Revised

SHEEP INVENTORY

**NEW MEXICO:** **Sheep and lamb** inventory for the State on January 1, 2004 was 160,000 head, down 15,000 head from the revised January 1, 2003 inventory continuing the downward trend. **Breeding sheep and lambs** were down by 7,000 head from the previous year totaling 133,000 head on January 1, 2004. Total **market sheep and lambs** declined to 27,000 head from the previous year's total of 35,000 head. The 2004 lamb crop totaled 99,000.

**UNITED STATES:** All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2004, totaled 6.09 million head, down 3 percent from 2003 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended downward since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.48 million head on January 1, 2004, down 4 percent from 4.66 million head on January 1, 2003. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.60 million head, were 4 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2004, totaled 1.61 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 16 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 23 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 30 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2003 lamb crop of 4.12 million head was down 5 percent from 2002 and established a new record low. The 2003 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2003, unchanged from 2002.

Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class and Lamb Crop January 1, 2003-2004, New Mexico and U.S.				
	New Mexico		United States	
	2003 <sup>1/</sup>	2004	2003	2004
	-----1,000 Head-----			
All Sheep and Lambs	175.0	160.0	6,300.0	6,090.0
Breeding Sheep and Lambs	140.0	133.0	4,658.0	4,480.0
Market Sheep and Lambs	35.0	27.0	1,642.0	1,610.0
Market Lambs under 65 lbs.	9.0	6.0	441.0	433.0
65-84 lbs.	11.0	8.0	266.3	255.5
85-105 lbs.	11.0	8.0	393.0	367.4
Over 105 lbs.	2.0	3.0	474.9	486.8
Market Sheep	2.0	2.0	66.8	67.3
Lamb crop Jan. 1 previous year <sup>2/</sup>	100.0	99.0	4,357.0	4,120.0

<sup>1/</sup> Revised    <sup>2/</sup> Lamb crop is defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States

GOAT INVENTORY

**New Mexico:** Inventory for **Angora** goats declined in 2004. The January 1, 2004 inventory for the State was 10,000 head compared to 15,000 head on January 1, 2003. The U.S. level also declined to 260,000 head, down from 285,000 head one year ago.

Goats: Inventory, Selected States and Total, January 1, 2003-2004				
Class	Angora		All Goats	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	-----1,000 Head-----			
AZ	30	30	---	---
<b>NM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>
TX	240	220	1,200	1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,200</b>